

OPINION 1703

***Goniosoma conspersum* Perty, 1833 (currently *Mitobates conspersus*; Arachnida, Opiliones): specific name not conserved**

Ruling

(1) The name *Mitobates* Sundevall, 1833 (gender: masculine), type species by original designation and by monotypy *Mitobates triangulus* Sundevall, 1833, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology.

(2) The name *triangulus* Sundevall, 1833, as published in the binomen *Mitobates triangulus*, is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

History of Case 2759

An application for the conservation of the specific name of *Goniosoma conspersum* Perty, December 1833 by suppressing the unused senior subjective synonym *Mitobates triangulus* Sundevall, April 1833 was received from Dr Adriano B. Kury (*Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*) on 14 February 1990. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 48: 105–106 (June 1991). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals. An opposing comment from Prof L.B. Holthuis (*Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum, Leiden, The Netherlands*), together with a reply by the author of the application, was published in BZN 48: 323–324 (December 1991).

The application was sent to the Commission for voting on 1 March 1992. The proposals on BZN 48: 105–106 received a majority (19 votes 'For' and 10 'Against') but just failed to reach the two-thirds majority required (Article 12b of the Constitution) for the suppression of *M. triangulus*. On 1 September 1992 the application was submitted for a revote under the Bylaws.

It was noted on the voting paper that no type material of *M. triangulus*, the nominal type species of *Mitobates* Sundevall, 1833, apparently existed but three syntypes of *G. conspersum* were deposited in Berlin (paras. 1 and 2 of the application). It was also noted that, voting in March 1992 in favour of the application, Cocks commented that he was swayed by the survival of the types of *G. conspersum* and Kabata commented that he was persuaded, albeit reluctantly, because of the inadequacy of the original (unillustrated) description of *M. triangulus* and the absence of any type material.

A proposal to place the name *Mitobates* on the Official List, in accord with usual practice, completed the proposals on BZN 48: 105–106 and was included on the voting papers circulated in both March and September 1992.

Decision of the Commission

On 1 September 1992 the members of the Commission were invited to revote on the proposals published in BZN 48: 105–106. At the close of the voting period on 1 December 1992 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 16: Bayer, Bock, Cocks, Cogger, Corliss, Hahn, Halvorsen, Kabata, Kraus, Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Nielsen, Schuster, Trjapitzin, Uéno, Willink

Negative votes — 12: Bouchet, Dupuis, Holthuis, Lehtinen, Macpherson, Minelli, Nye, Ride, Savage, Starobogatov, Štys and Thompson.

No vote was received from Heppell.

Ride commented that a *prima facie* case that stability was threatened had not been established and that one of the syntypes of *Goniosoma conspersum* could be designated as the neotype of *Mitobates triangulus*. Thompson commented that there was insufficient documentation of usage of *M. conspersus* (Perty, 1833) to justify the suppression of *M. triangulus*.

Since the required two-thirds majority was not reached the junior name *Goniosoma conspersum* was not conserved.

Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on Official Lists by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

Mitobates Sundevall, 1833, *Conspectus arachnidum*, p. 34.

triangulus, *Mitobates*, Sundevall, 1833, *Conspectus arachnidum*, p. 34, footnote.